

In the Specification:

At page 1, please delete and replace the paragraph from lines 2 to 8, as follows.

(A marked-up copy showing the changes is attached.)

Paragraph on page 1, lines 2-8

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This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/340,875, filed June 28, 1999, and issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,421,048; and this application is based on and claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/093,304, filed July 17, 1998, the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

REMARKS

Applicants hereby amend the paragraph under the heading, "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION", in the specification in order to update the reference to the nonprovisional priority document, which has issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,421,048, and to correct grammatical errors. At the time of filing the above-identified application, the application serial number of the aforementioned priority document had not been assigned, and the priority document was referenced by title and filing date, accordingly.

Thus, this Amendment does not introduce new matter and does not raise new issues of patentability. As Applicants are not amending the allowed claims, there is no requirement for additional search or examination.

Accordingly, Applicants request that this Amendment to the application be recommended for entry, without removing this application from issue. The Examiner is